

HEART SOUNDS BY PHONOGRAPH

IN VIEW of the increasing regard for a scientific as well as an educational background for teachers of physical education, special consideration attaches to the experiments being carried on at Teachers College, Columbia University, in the Health and Physical Education Department, under the direction of Dr. Rowell and Miss Shair, to find a simple and efficient way to teach students to recognize heart sounds. The usual method of practice in listening to heart sounds, of applying the stethoscope to hundreds of school children, is impractical in that representative types of heart cases are hard to find. Moreover, it is extremely tiresome for both student and child. By means of phonograph records all heart sounds both normal and abnormal may be learned with a minimum of time and material.

These records are put on the market by the Columbia Phonograph Co., Inc. They are called the Gamble-Cabot Cardiac Diagnosis Records, having been introduced by Dr. Clarence B. Gamble of the School of Medicine, University of Pennsylvania, and Dr. Richard C. Cabot, Professor of Clinical Medicine, Harvard University. A special set of equipment is offered, costing \$15.00. This includes:

- 1 9-pocket album
- 9 single ten-inch records
- 1 stethoscope with special reproducer
- 1 compression device
- 100 fiber needles
- 1 descriptive folder.

The method of listening is simple. One uses the stethoscope in the ordinary way, inserted in the ears, then holds the other end, on which is attached the special reproducer with a needle, on the record. There are several sound illustrations on each record with pauses between, so it is a simple matter to lift the reproducer and place it repeatedly on the auscultation one

wishes to memorize. Moreover, on the back of each record is a printed brief of what the record contains.

According to the booklet, Adv. 424-8-28—Columbia Phonograph Co., N. Y., the following elements of auscultation are illustrated by the records:

- (a) Normal heart sounds
- (b) Normal heart sounds with split (or doubled) second sound
- (c) Normal heart sounds with accented second sound
- (d) Normal third heart sound (or doubled second sound)
- (e) Systolic murmur accompanying first heart sound
- (f) Systolic murmur replacing first heart sound
- (g) Late systolic murmur
- (h) Pre-systolic murmur
- (i) Mid-diastolic murmur
- (j) Early diastolic ("aortic-diastolic")
- (k) Bigeminal rhythm ("coupled beats")

This is obviously a very useful apparatus for a Health and Physical Education Department which offers a major course. The opportunity for practical experience which should accompany certain professional courses such as Physical Examination, Normal Diagnosis, etc. has long been lacking, especially in schools and colleges which are not near big cities. Although this apparatus, or similar apparatus, has been used in medical schools for a time, only lately has it been recommended to Health and Physical Education Departments.

The teacher of a certain school asked his pupils one day if any of them could tell him who Joan of Arc was. The question was followed by profound silence. Some of the pupils stared at the teacher, and some turned and stared at one another, as if seeking the information in the faces around them. Finally a boy burst out with; "Oh, yes, I know—she was Noah's wife."